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Item 8 of the provisional agenda *

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE NEXT SESSION AND FUTURE WORK

Note by the Secretariat **

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* E/CN.7/1993/1
** This document has not been formally edited.

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I. Introduction

1. The agenda for the present session of the Commission reflects a consensus reached at the thirty-fifth session. Since then, General Assembly resolutions 47/99 and 47/100, both of 16 December 1992, have influenced the monitoring of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action (GPA) and of the development and implementation of the System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP).

2. The draft provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session presented below by the secretariat is based on the assumption that the Commission would first examine the worldwide situation under its item on general debate, which would consist of concise statements of a general nature, followed by a substantive debate and conclusions. Governments will be requested to structure their interventions along the lines of the GPA. The Commission would next take note of the activities of its secretariat as reflected in the report of the Executive Director on the work of UNDCP. Treaty-based functions would continue to be considered under a separate agenda item.

3. In view of the changes introduced by General Assembly resolution 47/100 concerning the development and implementation of the SWAP, the Secretariat recommends considering the GPA and the SWAP under separate agenda items. This approach also has the advantage of concentrating statements and interventions from other bodies of the United Nations system under a single item. On the other hand, administrative and budgetary functions mandated by the General Assembly continue to be grouped together.

4. The secretariat will present all data required for the consideration of an agenda item in a concise, action-oriented document. Whenever possible, there will be only one document for an item or, when required, a sub-item.

II. Provisional agenda and documentation

5. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the secretariat submits to the Commission the following draft provisional agenda for its thirty-seventh session, together with an indication of the documents for its consideration in respect of each item.

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

   Documentation

   Provisional agenda
   Annotated provisional agenda

3. General debate: Examination of the world situation with respect to drug abuse, including illicit demand, illicit trafficking and illicit supply:

(a) General statements;

(b) Substantive debate and conclusions.

Documentation

Reports of the regional HONLEAs and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

Report on drug abuse, including prevention and treatment

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board (relevant parts)

Reports of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

4. Activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the Programme

5. Implementation of the international drug control treaties

(a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (as necessary)

(b) International Narcotics Control Board

Documentation

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board (relevant parts)

(c) Other urgent action required under the international drug control conventions

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat (as necessary)

6. Monitoring of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat

7. Monitoring of the development and implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat

Reports from specialized agencies (as necessary)

8. Administrative and budgetary matters

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director

9. Draft agenda of the next session and future work

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat

10. Other matters

Documentation

(as necessary)

11. Adoption of report of the Commission at its thirty-seventh session

III. Contents of documentation

6. With respect to the contents of certain documents prepared for the Commission, it would be useful for the Secretariat to receive confirmation of the current practice or, if a change is required, further guidance from the Commission. This is the case with three categories of documents, all of which are presently background documents for the agenda item on "General debate": (i) reports from subsidiary bodies, (ii) reports from intergovernmental organizations, and (iii) reports on non-governmental organization activities.

Reports from subsidiary bodies

7. The reports of four regional meetings of HONLEA (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean) and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East are before the current session of the Commission in conference room papers issued in the working language(s) of the respective subsidiary bodies (E/CN.7/1993/CRP.3-6 and 10). In connection with the issuance of these reports in the working language(s) of each meeting, it should be recalled that one of the main purposes of such meetings is to facilitate coordination of activities and countermeasures relating to illicit drug traffic at the regional level and that the vast majority of recommendations emanating from the subsidiary bodies are directed to Governments of the region and do not require action by the Commission. On the other hand, matters requiring action by the Commission or brought to its attention, as well as the chapters on the illicit trafficking situation by region, are included in a Commission document in all six official languages (E/CN.7/1993/2 and Add.1 in the case of the current session).

Reports from intergovernmental organizations

8. At its thirty-first session in 1985, the Commission confirmed an earlier decision that reports from intergovernmental organizations should continue to be consolidated into a single document and that reports over three pages in length should be edited by the secretariat to conform with that maximum. Reports from intergovernmental organizations are published in a multilingual document in the language(s) of submission. Such reports are before the Commission in document E/CN.7/1993/CRP.8.

Reports from non-governmental organizations

9. The Commission also decided at its thirty-first session to discontinue a regular document containing reports from non-governmental organizations and, instead, to circulate individual reports in accordance with the consultative arrangements foreseen in Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968. Later, at its thirty-fourth session in 1991, the Commission decided to request the New York NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse and the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs to prepare a report on non-governmental organization activities. That report is before the Commission in document E/CN.7/1993/CRP.9.

IV. Proposals for action emanating from the subsidiary bodies

10. Reference to document E/CN.7/1993/2 shows that the 1992 HONLEA meetings in Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the 1993 meeting of HONLEA, Europe, have forwarded proposals for action to the Commission in the form of recommendations. This is the same system followed with respect to the more numerous recommendations addressed to Governments of the region. On the other hand, the last meeting of HONLEA, Africa, has forwarded a draft resolution to the Commission for possible action and adopted two resolutions of its own, in addition to the recommendations it approved, including three that refer to UNDCP. The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, in addition to a draft decision concerning applications for membership, has forwarded for information the text of the Tehran Declaration, an exceptional occurrence in view of the fact that a Ministerial-level Conference was convened at its twenty-ninth session.

11. In view of the foregoing the Commission may wish to consider in what form it wishes to receive proposals for possible action from its subsidiary bodies. Should such proposals have implications for the regular programme budget of UNDCP, a detailed statement of the implications would be submitted to the Commission along with the proposals of the subsidiary body.